

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO  
Sixty-third Legislature First Regular Session - 2015

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 17, As Amended in the Senate

BY TRANSPORTATION AND DEFENSE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO AUTOCYCLES; AMENDING SECTION 49-102, IDAHO CODE, TO DEFINE A TERM; AMENDING SECTIONS 49-301 AND 49-304, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE AN EXEMPTION RELATING TO MOTORCYCLE ENDORSEMENTS FOR AUTOCYCLES; AMENDING SECTION 49-666, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE AN EXEMPTION RELATING TO HELMETS FOR COMPLETELY ENCLOSED AUTOCYCLES; AMENDING CHAPTER 24, TITLE 49, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 49-2448, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF LAW RELATING TO MOTORCYCLE PLATE, TAG, REGISTRATION AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS SHALL APPLY TO AUTOCYCLES AND TO REQUIRE COMPLIANCE WITH SPECIFIED DRIVER'S LICENSE PROVISIONS RELATING TO PERSONS OPERATING AUTOCYCLES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 49-102, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

49-102. DEFINITIONS -- A. (1) "Abandon" means to leave a vehicle on private property without the permission of the person having rights to the possession of the property, or on a highway or other property open to the public for the purposes of vehicular traffic or parking, or upon or within the right-of-way of any highway, for twenty-four (24) hours or longer.

(2) "Abandoned vehicle" means any vehicle observed by an authorized officer or reported by a member of the public to have been left within the limits of any highway or upon the property of another without the consent of the property owner for a period of twenty-four (24) hours or longer, except that a vehicle shall not be considered abandoned if its owner-operator is unable to remove it from the place where it is located and has notified a law enforcement agency and requested assistance.

(3) "Accident" means any event that results in an unintended injury or property damage attributable directly or indirectly to the motion of a motor vehicle or its load, a snowmobile or special mobile equipment.

(4) "Actual physical control" means being in the driver's position of a motor vehicle with the motor running or the vehicle moving.

(5) "Administrator" means the federal highway administrator, the chief executive of the federal highway administration, an agency within the U.S. department of transportation.

(6) "Age of a motor vehicle" means the age determined by subtracting the manufacturer's year designation of the vehicle from the year in which the designated registration fee is paid. If the vehicle has the same manufacturer's year designation as the year in which the fee is paid, or if a vehicle has a manufacturer's year designation later than the year in which the fee is paid, the vehicle shall be deemed to be one (1) year old.

1 (7) "Air-conditioning equipment" means mechanical vapor compression  
2 refrigeration equipment which is used to cool the driver's or passenger com-  
3 partment of any motor vehicle.

4 (8) "Alcohol or alcoholic beverage" means:

5 (a) Beer as defined in 26 U.S.C. section 5052(a), of the Internal Rev-  
6 enue Code;

7 (b) Wine of not less than one-half of one percent (.005%) of alcohol by  
8 volume; or

9 (c) Distilled spirits as defined in section 5002(a)(8), of the Internal  
10 Revenue Code.

11 (9) "Alley" means a public way of limited use intended only to provide  
12 access to the rear or side of lots or buildings in urban districts.

13 (10) "All-terrain vehicle" or "ATV" means an all-terrain vehicle or ATV  
14 as defined in section 67-7101, Idaho Code.

15 (11) "Amateur radio operator." (See "Radio operator, amateur," section  
16 49-119, Idaho Code)

17 (12) "Ambulance" means a motor vehicle designed and used primarily for  
18 the transportation of injured, sick, or deceased persons, on stretchers,  
19 cots, beds, or other devices for carrying persons in a prone position.

20 (13) "Applicant" means an individual who applies to obtain, transfer,  
21 upgrade, or renew a driver's license.

22 (14) "Approved driver training course" means a training course from a  
23 school licensed under the provisions of chapter 21 of this title or a driver  
24 training course approved by another United States jurisdiction provided the  
25 course was taken while an individual was a resident of that United States ju-  
26 risdiction.

27 (15) "Approved testing agency" means a person, firm, association, part-  
28 nership or corporation approved by the director of the Idaho state police  
29 which is:

30 (a) In the business of testing equipment and systems;

31 (b) Recognized by the director as being qualified and equipped to do ex-  
32 perimental testing; and

33 (c) Not under the jurisdiction or control of any single manufacturer or  
34 supplier for an affected industry.

35 (16) "Armed forces" means the army, navy, marine corps, coast guard and  
36 the air force of the United States.

37 (17) "Authorized emergency vehicle." (See "Vehicle," section 49-123,  
38 Idaho Code)

39 (18) "Authorized officer" means any member of the Idaho state police, or  
40 any regularly employed and salaried deputy sheriff, or other county employee  
41 designated to perform the function of removing abandoned vehicles or junk  
42 vehicles by the board of county commissioners of the county in which a vehi-  
43 cle is located, or any regularly employed and salaried city peace officer or  
44 other city employee designated to perform the function of removing abandoned  
45 vehicles or junk vehicles by the city council, or a qualified person depu-  
46 tized or appointed by the proper authority as reserve deputy sheriff or city  
47 policeman, authorized within the jurisdiction in which the abandoned vehi-  
48 cle or junk vehicle is located.

49 (19) "Authorized transportation department employee" means any em-  
50 ployee appointed by the board to perform duties relating to enforcement of

1 vehicle laws as have been specifically defined and approved by order of the  
2 board (see section 40-510, Idaho Code).

3 (20) "Auto transporter" means a vehicle combination constructed for the  
4 purpose of transporting vehicles.

5 (21) "Autocycle" means a motor vehicle designed to travel on not more  
6 than three (3) wheels in contact with the ground that has a steering wheel and  
7 seating that does not require the operator to straddle or sit astride.

8 SECTION 2. That Section 49-301, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 49-301. DRIVERS TO BE LICENSED. (1) No person, except those expressly  
11 exempted by the provisions of this chapter, shall drive any motor vehicle  
12 upon a highway unless the person has a current and valid Idaho driver's li-  
13 cense. Provided however, that those persons holding a restricted school at-  
14 tendance driving permit may drive upon a highway pursuant to the restric-  
15 tions set forth in section 49-307A, Idaho Code.

16 (2) No person shall operate a motorcycle upon a highway unless he has  
17 a motorcycle endorsement on his valid driver's license. The provisions of  
18 this subsection shall not apply to persons operating autocycles.

19 (3) No person shall operate a motor vehicle in violation of any valid  
20 restriction identified on, or attached to, his valid driver's license.

21 (4) No person shall receive a class D driver's license unless and un-  
22 til he surrenders to the department all driver's licenses in his possession  
23 issued to him by Idaho or any other jurisdiction for use within the United  
24 States, or any identification cards issued by any other jurisdiction within  
25 the United States, or until he executes an affidavit that he does not possess  
26 a driver's license or any identification cards.

27 (5) No person shall be permitted to have more than one (1) driver's li-  
28 cense issued for use within the United States at any time.

29 (6) No person shall operate a commercial motor vehicle as defined in  
30 section 49-123, Idaho Code, upon a highway:

31 (a) Without obtaining a commercial driver's license.

32 (b) Without having the appropriate class A, B or C commercial driver's  
33 license in the operator's possession.

34 (c) Without the proper license class of commercial driver's license or  
35 endorsements for the specific vehicle group being operated or for the  
36 passengers or type of cargo being transported.

37 (d) Unless the operator has a seasonal or class A, B or C driver's li-  
38 cense with required endorsements in his possession.

39 (e) Without having a current and valid medical examiner's certificate  
40 on file with the department while operating in a "non-excepted" status  
41 as required by the federal motor carrier safety administration. Med-  
42 ical examiner's certificates submitted for filing must be legible and  
43 shall be submitted in a manner acceptable to the department. If the  
44 federal motor carrier safety administration has issued a medical ex-  
45 emption letter or skill performance evaluation certificate, the driver  
46 must have the current and valid documentation in physical possession  
47 and available upon request to a duly authorized federal, state or local  
48 enforcement official.

(7) Any holder of a class A, B or C commercial driver's license issued by a jurisdiction other than Idaho shall apply for an Idaho-issued commercial driver's license within thirty (30) days of establishing a domicile in Idaho. In accordance with the federal motor carrier safety regulations, no person shall receive a class A, B or C driver's license unless and until he surrenders to the department all driver's licenses in his possession issued to him by Idaho or any other jurisdiction.

(8) Except as provided in section 49-304, Idaho Code, a violation of this section is a misdemeanor.

SECTION 3. That Section 49-304, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

49-304. MOTORCYCLE ENDORSEMENT. The department shall issue a motorcycle "M" endorsement on a driver's license to applicants who complete the requirements to operate a motorcycle.

(1) No person may operate a motorcycle upon a highway without a motorcycle "M" endorsement on a valid driver's license.

(2) Any person who applies for a driver's license or renewal of a license may also apply for a motorcycle "M" endorsement. The requirements for obtaining a motorcycle "M" endorsement are:

(a) The applicant shall be tested by written examination for his knowledge of safe motorcycle operating practices and traffic laws specific to the operation of motorcycles upon payment of the fee specified in section 49-306, Idaho Code.

(b) Upon successful completion of the knowledge test and upon payment of the fee required for an "M" endorsement, the applicant shall obtain a motorcycle "M" endorsement on his driver's license.

(3) No person under the age of twenty-one (21) years may apply for or obtain a motorcycle "M" endorsement on his driver's license unless he has successfully completed a motorcycle rider training course approved under the provisions of chapter 49, title 33, Idaho Code, in addition to satisfying the requirements specified in subsection (2) of this section. The provisions of this subsection shall not be effective unless and until the motorcycle rider training course is fully implemented by the division of professional-technical education.

(4) Any person who applies for a motorcycle endorsement on a driver's license, in addition to the requirements specified in subsection (2) of this section, may also be required to pass the motorcycle "M" skills test before he can obtain the motorcycle "M" endorsement.

(5) The operation of a motorcycle upon a highway by any person who has failed to obtain a motorcycle "M" endorsement as provided in this section shall constitute an infraction.

(6) The provisions of this section shall not apply to persons operating autocycles.

SECTION 4. That Section 49-666, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

49-666. MOTORCYCLE, MOTORBIKE, UTV AND ATV SAFETY HELMETS -- REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS. No person under eighteen (18) years of age shall ride

1 upon or be permitted to operate a motorcycle, motorbike, utility type vehi-  
2 cle or an all-terrain vehicle unless at all times when so operating or rid-  
3 ing upon the vehicle he is wearing, as part of his motorcycle, motorbike, UTV  
4 or ATV equipment, a protective safety helmet of a type and quality equal to  
5 or better than the standards established for helmets by the director, ex-  
6 cept the provisions of this section shall not apply when such vehicles are  
7 operated or ridden on private property, or when used as an implement of hus-  
8 bandry, and shall also not apply to completely enclosed autocycles.

9 SECTION 5. That Chapter 24, Title 49, Idaho Code, be, and the same is  
10 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-  
11 ignated as Section 49-2448, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

12 49-2448. AUTOCYCLES. (1) The following provisions of law shall apply  
13 to autocycles:

14 (a) Motorcycle plate and registration tag requirements;

15 (b) Motorcycle registration requirements. Certification from the na-  
16 tional highway traffic safety administration and a manufacturer's cer-  
17 tificate of origin stating that the vehicle meets the federal specifi-  
18 cations for a motorcycle shall be required for all autocycles prior to  
19 registration;

20 (c) Motorcycle insurance requirements.

21 (2) All persons operating autocycles shall be in compliance with the  
22 provisions of section 49-301, Idaho Code.

23 SECTION 6. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby  
24 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after its  
25 passage and approval.